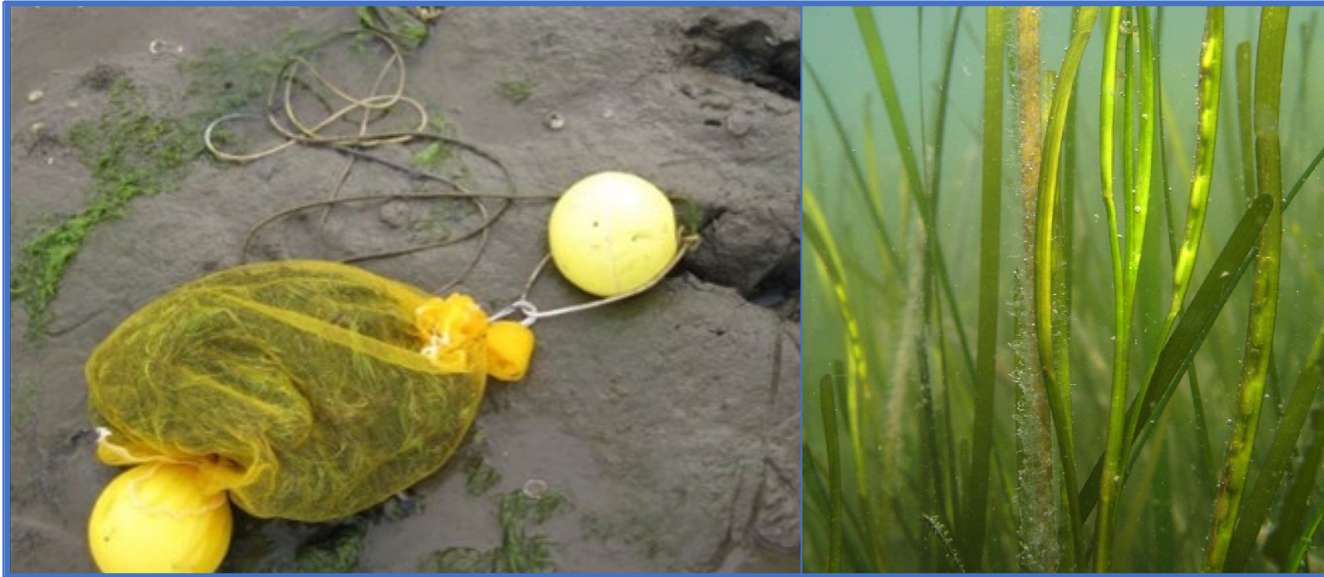


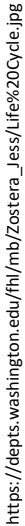


Eelgrass Buoy Deployed Seeding (BuDS) Pilot Project



<https://journals.plos.org/plosone/article?id=10.1371/journal.pone.0262845> <https://d3i71xaburhd42.cloudfront.net/15a991331aee2d4df844f4daecfc6abfb88f24f9/1-Figure1-1.png>

The BuDS system developed and applied in Atlantic restoration. The simple system consists of an anchor, floating line, two small buoys, and a 6mm mesh net bag. The nets are filled with reproductive seed shoots and the system allows the reproductive shoots to naturally drop seeds.



- Little work has been done on the Pacific NE Coast using seeds in restoration. BuDS can be used in low energy restoration sites, alone, or in conjunction with transplanting restoration efforts. Seeding allows genetic variability where direct transplanting does not.



Jill Thompson <jill@cowichanwatershedboard.ca>

reaching out about eelgrass seeding restoration projects in the area

Spooner, Angela (she, her | elle, la) (DFO/MPO) <Angela.Spooner@dfo-mpo.gc.ca>
To: "info@cowichanwatershedboard.ca" <info@cowichanwatershedboard.ca>
Cc: "Sutherst, Jenna" <Jennifer.Sutherst@dfo-mpo.gc.ca>

11 July 2023 at 15:06

Hi, I got Tim Kulchyski's and Audra Stcey's names from Cheri Ayres if this message could please be directed to them and/or the Cowichan Guardian group? Thank you.

My name is Angela Spooner and I am a new hire as the marine restoration biologist with the salmon habitat restoration group at DFO.

One of the tasks I have is to investigate innovative restoration methods. Traditionally eelgrass restoration has been done with donor sites and transplants on the west coast. Seeding restoration has been used in the Atlantic for some time with varying success. I have been in touch with Cheri regarding the past eelgrass restoration projects in the Cowichan Estuary.

For this season, I have selected 3 sites for a small eelgrass seeding trial in preparation for a larger effort next year (sites not yet confirmed) – the sites this year are in Maple Bay, near Ships Point (Mud Bay) and south Gowlland Harbour on Quadra Island. I have attached a short backgrounder on the method.

The floats are set at the sites and the eelgrass seeds are nearly ready for collection. I have identified the eelgrass bed in Nanoose Bay as ideal and we are hoping to start collection next week (the seeds need to be ripe) July 17 and 18th. These tides may be too high so back up dates are July 31 and Aug 1.

I am not sure if you or others are interested in learning more or participating so am sharing the details below. I would be happy to meet and talk about the benefits and intent of the trial project at any time. I am at the regional level so have cc'ed our south coast lead, Jenna Sutherst, here as well. I look forward to hearing from you.

Angela

Meet 1.5 hours before low tide at Nanoose Bay, after collection, deployment decisions will be made as to when and where (Ships Point, Maple Bay, Quadra)

minimum goal = total 2600 reproductive stems (800 per site and 200 for lab test)

REPRODUCTIVE SHOOTS COLLECTION	low 2.4ft @ 1244h	low 2.6ft @ 1251h	if JULY 17/18 are not good low 0.9ft at 1110h	if JULY 17/18 are not good low 0.6ft at 1157h
NANOOSE BAY	JULY 17 (MONDAY)	JULY 18 (TUESDAY)	JULY 31 (MONDAY)	AUG 1 (TUESDAY)



Angela Spooner

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Senior Marine Restoration Biologist --- Biologiste principal de la restauration marine

1965 Island Diesel Way --- 1965 chemin Island Diesel

Fisheries and Oceans Canada, Government of Canada --- Pêches et Océans Canada, Gouvernement du Canada

I wish to respectfully acknowledge that I live in the traditional unceded territory of the K'ómoks First Nation.

I am honoured to live on this land and am committed to working with people from across many traditional and unceded territories, covering all regions of British Columbia and the Yukon with the lens of reconciliation, decolonization, and

building relationships.

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Je tiens à souligner respectueusement que je vis dans le territoire traditionnel non cédé de la Première Nation K'ómoks.

Je suis honoré de vivre sur cette terre et je m'engage à travailler avec des gens de nombreux territoires traditionnels et non cédés, couvrant toutes les régions de la Colombie-Britannique et du Yukon sous l'angle de la réconciliation, de la décolonisation et de l'établissement de relations.



2 page eelgrass seeding.pptx

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